THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED · BY · CONGRESS · MAY · 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

December 13, 1983

AM
10:00 Convene, 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings and schedule for 1984:

January 31, 1984
March 13, 1984

B. Approval of October 12, 1983 minutes of the Commission of Fine Arts.

C. Department of Interior, Memorial Advisory Committee meeting December 14, 1983, policy guidance for staff.

D. Citizens Association of Georgetown meeting November 14, 1983; report.

E. Draft, Commission of Fine Arts regulations as required by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Authorization to publish draft prepared by Department of Justice for joint use of small agencies and as proposed CFA regulation; Title 45 CFR, Part 2104.

F. Republication of Bridges and the City of Washington.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Smithsonian Institution

1. CFA 13/DEC/83-1, Anacostia Neighborhood Facility,

Museum Annex and Laboratory Addition, preliminary designs, Fort Stanton Park.

2. CFA 13/DEC/83-2, National Museum of American Art/National Portrait Gallery, West Entrance alterations.

3. CFA 13/DEC/83-3, National Zoo Entranceway and Olmsted Walk modifications, preliminary plans.

B. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 13/DEC/83-4, Cadillac-Fairview Project, 1000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Design development plans for Phase I.

C. Government of the District of Columbia, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 83-83, 1435 G Street, N. W., Washington Building renovation and addition of two new floors, preliminary design.

b. S.L. 84-04, 201 E Capitol Street, S.E., garden design (Folger Library).

c. S.L. 84-07, 201 E. Capitol Street, S.E., fence and gate design (Folger Library).

d. Appendix I.

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 84-25, 1703 32nd Street, N.W., Dumbarton Oaks addition, revised design, (previous O.G. 83-151).

b. O.G. 84-22, 1015 31st Street, N.W., New office building, conceptual design.

c. Appendix II.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS CONTINUED, December 13, 1983

D. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 13/DEC/83-5, German-American Friendship Garden, Washington Monument Grounds at Constitution Avenue, revised design, (previous CFA 12/OCT/83-5).

2. CFA 13/DEC/83-6, National Sculpture Garden, 7th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., pruning trees surrounding pool.

3. CFA 13/DEC/83-7, Daingerfield Island Marina Restaurant, working drawings and material samples.

E. Federal Reserve System, Board of Governors

CFA 13/DEC/83-8, re-landscaping the Federal Reserve Board Eccles Building, revised design, (previous CFA 12/OCT/83-7).

F. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. CFA 13/DEC/83-9, Helen Hayes Medal, Gold Medallion Series, designs.

2. CFA 13/DEC/83-10, John Steinbeck Medal, Gold Medallion Series, designs.

3. CFA 13/DEC/83-11, 1984 Louisiana Exposition Medal, designs.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
* S.L. 83-94	1610 H Street, N.W. National Trust for Historic Preservation	Renovation and addition

ACTION: Concept for addition to building is approved as reviewed by Commission of Fine Arts on October 12, 1983. Submit working drawings, samples of colors and materials for review and approval by the Commission of Fine Arts.

S.L. 83-95	1631 H Street, N.W. Colonial Parking	Sign

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend submission of additional information describing which portions of proposed sign will be illuminated. Recommend sign location below arcade soffit at level of existing piers and that it be attached flat against building surface. Projecting signs are not appropriate to the federal precincts.

S.L. 84-03	1401 New York Ave., N.W. John Arriobie Co.	Sign

ACTION: Not in Commission of Fine Arts jurisdiction.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 84-06	400 C Street, N.W. Donohoe Company	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for Duranodic bronze sign, 10'-0" by 1'-6" by 6". Sign to be mounted to soffit of existing arcade and to have cut out letters backed with white plexiglass and internally illuminated.

S.L. 84-08	2112 F Street, N.W. 2112 F Street Associates	Sign

ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to construction barricade painted as proposed. Signage, however, has undesirable billboard effect. Signs are to be consolidated and organized into a single sign about 50 square feet. (See notations on drawing.)

S.L. 84-09	800 Sixteenth Street, N.W. Murdock Development Corporation	Renovation and repair

ACTION: Issue permit for renovation of areaway on H Street as shown on drawings received and dated 4 November 1983. Lighting fixtures and signage will be presented at a later date.

S.L. 84-10	1425-27 F Street, N.W. Oliver T. Carr Company	Temporary fence

ACTION: Issue permit for four foot high plywood neutral grey temporary construction fence. Any signs shall require separate permits.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 84-11	607 15th Street, N.W. Oliver T. Carr Company	Temporary fence

ACTION: Issue permit for four foot high plywood neutral grey temporary construction fence. Any signs shall require separate permits.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 84-05	515 N. Capitol St., N.W. U.S. Food Corp.	Awning, sign

ACTION: No objection to permit issuance for interior work or canopy replacement. Do not issue permit for internally illuminated sign in this location near the Capitol Building. Restudy with free-standing or backlighted letters.

S.L. 84-12	400 C St., S.W. Donohoe & Sons, Inc.	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for Duranodic bronze sign, 12'-0" by 1'-6", as shown on drawings received and dated 17 November, 1983. Sign to be mounted to soffit of existing arcade and to have cut-out letters backed with white plexiglass and internally illuminated.

S.L. 84-16	1321 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. National Theatre	Interior renovation

ACTION: Issue permit.

S.L. 84-17	2112 F St., N.W. Greenhoot, Inc.	Construction fence & signs

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary construction fence and signs as received and dated 1 December, 1983. (Note changes made to drawing with permission of architect.)

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*	S.L. 84-27	450 H St., N.W. Jildar Corp.	New commercial Building

ACTION: Issue permit.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 83-140	1539 27th Street, N.W. Joy Sundlun	Exterior stair and gate

ACTION: VOID

O.G. 83-144	1070 31st Street, N.W. Ronald Stevens	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for sign as shown in revised drawings dated October 7, 1983. Revised design complies with recommendations of Georgetown Board.

O.G. 83-151	1703 32nd Street, N.W. Harvard University Dumbarton Oaks	Addition

ACTION: No objection to the concept of an infill structure to occupy the present courtyard adjacent to 32nd Street. Recommend restudy of circulation as a means of retaining the present entrance for both staff and patrons. Recommend that roofline of proposed addition be restudied to reduce silhouette from the street.

O.G. 83-159	3139 M Street, N.W. Philip Chao	Sign

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Present signage at entrance and awnings combined with proposed sign will be in excess of maximum allowable square footage. Recommend applicant consider either awning signs or a wall mounted sign, not both.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 83-160	3131 P Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Zumas	Addition

ACTION: No objection to concept and design as submitted. Request the D.C. Government resolve any potential conflict regarding openings, projections and installations on property lines before submission for final review.

O.G. 83-161	2802 N Street, N.W. Robert Sykes	Air conditioning unit

ACTION: No comment on the aesthetic merit of the proposed air-conditioning units. Request the D.C. Government resolve any potential conflict regarding the installation or construction of equipment and additions that face property lines.

O.G. 83-162	3138 P Street, N.W. Eldon E. & Sally R. Senner	Additions and alterations

ACTION: Issue permit for addition and alterations as shown on drawings received and dated 13 October 1983.

O.G. 84-01	3319 Q Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Henry Townsend	Addition and alterations

ACTION: Issue permit for rear addition and alterations as shown on drawings received and dated 13 October 1983.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 84-02	2727 'O' Street, N.W. Diocese of Christ the King	Addition

ACTION: No objection to concept of parish house addition. Recommend additional study of entrance; eliminate two columns.

O.G. 84-03	1539 27th Street, N.W. Joy Sundlun	Exterior stair and gate

ACTION: Issue permit for construction of basement stair within existing areaway on Q Street as shown on site plan. Recommend that proposed gate be simplified to correspond with style of house and existing railings.

O.G. 84-04	2929 M Street, N.W. NS & T Bank	Signs

ACTION: Issue permit for signs and pole standards as shown in type "E" of drawings received and dated 17 October 1983.

O.G. 84-05	3133 'O' Street, N.W. Ms. Barbara Gamarekian	Curb cut and parking area

ACTION: Concept is not approved. Curb cut and proposed parking area at this location are not advisable; present terrace and landscaping contribute substantial interest to the streetscape, while proposed off street parking would diminish it.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 84-06	1524 28th Street, N.W. 1524 28th Street Limited Partnership	Addition and alterations

ACTION: Issue permit for proposed addition and alterations as shown on drawings received and dated 14 October 1983.

O.G. 84-08	3111-3113 M Street, N.W. Marvin Fabrikant	Signs

ACTION: Issue permit for light-box signs at all three entries and applied lettering to building fascia panel as shown in drawings received and dated 17 October 1983.

O.G. 84-09	1631 35th Street, N.W. Jane F. Allen	Side porch enclosure

ACTION: Issue permit for side porch enclosure. Recommend that applicant incorporate wood panels below the proposed new window to eliminate awkward differences in sill and lintel heights between existing house and new work.

O.G. 84-10	1805 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Duron Paint Store	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for wall-mounted wood sign, 2'-3" by 7'-0" wide. Background will be painted gray as proposed by applicant. White-enamelled aluminum letters to be applied to wood ground. DURON letters to be accented by horizontal gray lines. Lettering to be back-lighted. Note changes to drawing and related materials.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 84-11	3512 Reservoir Road, N.W. Cloisters Development Corp.	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary real estate sign, for a period not to exceed one year.

O.G. 84-12	1065 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Security National Bank	Alteration and repair

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Proposed replacement of goose-neck lamp arms with straight arm lamps would detract from the existing building. Recommend leaving the present lights alone.

O.G. 84-13	2515 Q Street, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Howard P. Wile	Sunroom addition

ACTION: Concept is not recommended as designed. Proposed metal and glass greenhouse-type addition is out of character with this row of houses. There is no objection to the concept of an unobstrusive sunroom or greenhouse provided it is harmonious with the original structure.

O.G. 84-14	3109 N Street, N.W. Edward T. Miller	Addition

ACTION: Returned to D.C. Government without objection as submission is not visible from public space nor does it project beyond the adjacent houses.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 84-15	1206 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Michael O'Harro	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary sign, for a period not to exceed one year.

O.G. 84-16	3221 M Street, N.W. Desmond/O'Harro	Addition

ACTION: Issue permit for addition to existing restaurant building.

O.G. 84-17	1201 28th Street, N.W. Emil A. Audette	Sign

ACTION: No objection to design of proposed sign provided it has a border and, together with the existing signs on the awnings, is limited to 25 square feet in size. A variance for extra signage on this building is disapproved.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 83-98	3205 Prospect St., N.W. Westend Corp.	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for pole mounted projecting banner as shown on drawings dated 6 June, 1983. Adjacent retail space shall have a coordinated banner-type sign subject to review and approval of the Commission of Fine Arts.

O.G. 83-155	1529 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Marvin Fabricant	Renovation, enlarge window

ACTION: Do not issue permit. The proposed enlargement of the central ground floor window and the alteration of the the remaining ground floor window to accomodate an additional entrance, will be detrimental to the character and integrity of the existing building.

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* O.G. 84-07	3540 Reservoir Rd., N.W. Porten Sullivan	New townhouses

ACTION: Issue permit for new townhouses in accord with the drawings submitted October 17, 1983. Entrance stoops shall be brick. Landscape curbing shall be brick to match stoops. No further submission required.

O.G. 84-18	3217 Reservoir Rd., N.W. Gary Tobin/ Joana Hanes	Renovate house

ACTION: Issue permit.

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* O.G. 84-19	3210 M St., N.W. Washington Private Capital	Renovation of Firehouse

ACTION: Issue permit. There are no exterior alterations proposed which would affect the Commission's previous approval, OG 83-114.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 84-20	2901 Q St., N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Howard Leith	Roof terrace enclosure

ACTION: No objection, issue permit.

O.G. 84-21	1054 31st St., N.W. R. Bernstein	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for sign to be located eight feet above grade at southeast corner of building facing 31st Street, N.W.

O.G. 84-23	3284 & 3288 M St., N.W. John Snyder	Restaurant addition

ACTION: Concept is approved for the two-story addition to the rear of the existing structure as shown on the drawings received and dated 7 December, 1983. Recommend submission of working drawings before issuance of permit.

O.G. 84-24	3234 Volta Place, N.W. Allen Wendt	Two-story addition

ACTION: Concept approved for kitchen addition.

O.G. 84-26	3008 M St., N.W. Al Wheeler	Sign

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary (one year) painted wood sign to be hung from a wrought iron bracket. (Note change to permit application approved by applicant.) Recommend that owner (s) of building coordinate design, material and attachment of signs for all tenants before the issuance of any further sign permits.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 84-27	2515 Q St., N.W. Howard and Margery Wile	House addition

ACTION: Revised design for conservatory addition, as shown on drawings received and dated 18 November, 1983 and containing subsequent revisions dated 22 Nov. 1983 agreed to by architect, is approved. Request details of construction, showing materials and cross-sections of vertical and horizontal framing members prior to issuance of permit.

O.G. 84-28	1640 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. High Street Associates	Renovation

ACTION: Issue permit for interior work. There are no visible exterior changes and skylights shall be flat, minimizing vivibility from street.

O.G. 84-28	1066 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Bowl and Board	Renovation

ACTION: Issue permit for the restoration and renovation of the existing building(s) as shown on the drawings received and dated 2 December 1983.

O.G. 84-29	1418 35th St., N.W. Richard Blien	Replacement deck

ACTION: Issue permit for the deck replacement and extending garden walls as shown on the drawing received and dated 5 December, 1983. Note: resubmission of this concept for final review will not be necessary.

O.G. 84-30	3254 O St., N.W. William Crocker	Porch enclosure

ACTION: Design concept is disapproved for alteration and addition to the existing residence as shown on drawings received and dated 5 December, 1983. Design is incompatible with the existing character of the house.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
* O.G. 84-31	2715 M Street, N.W. Corcoran Limited Partnership	New Office building

ACTION: Issue permit for the construction of the new four-story office building with adjacent garden court and underground garage as shown on the working drawings received and dated 6 December, 1983. Erect material sample for inspection and approval of the Commission on site.

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

13 December 1983

The meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members present:	Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman Hon. Sondra G. Myers Hon. Harold Burson Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
Staff present:	Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson Mrs. Sue Kohler
National Capital Planning Commission staff present:	Mr. George Evans

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings and schedule for 1984: 31 January 1984
13 March 1984

The dates of the first two meetings in the year were approved, and a tentative schedule for the remaining 1984 meeting circulated to the members.

B. Minutes of the 12 October 1983 meeting: approved.

C. Department of the Interior, Memorial Advisory Committee meeting of 14 December 1983, policy guidance for staff. The Secretary reported that there would be a meeting of this committee, which he would attend, the following day. He said that a memorial to the 11th Airborne Division would be discussed and asked the members if they wanted him to reiterate the Commission's policy of discouraging memorials to individual military units, or if they felt an exception could be made in this case; he noted that a number of such memorials had already been

erected. The Chairman and the other members agreed emphatically that the Commission's policy had not changed and should be restated; given the number of military units, the Chairman said he did not see how all those wishing a memorial in the Capital could be accommodated. He observed, however, that there were still a few sites along Memorial Drive suitable for monuments of this type.

The Secretary then noted that the proposed Korean War Memorial would also be discussed at the Advisory Committee meeting. He recalled the Planning Commission and Interior Department comments on the legislation, both of which recommended against purchase of private land for the memorial. (The recently arrived comments from the Interior Department had been placed in the members' folders for their information; no official comment was required.) He said that after further thought, he wondered if there really should be any objection to purchase of private land, and whether there was, indeed, adequate suitable public land available for this and future memorials. Mr. Burson said he would have no objection to purchase of private land contiguous to public parkland; the Chairman said he was not sure this question was one that should concern this commission. The Secretary said he would simply like to raise the question at the meeting as something to think about, and there were no objections to his doing so.

D. Citizens Association of Georgetown meeting, 14 November 1983, report. The Secretary reported that he and the Chairman had been part of a panel discussion at this meeting during which problems of development and congestion in Georgetown were discussed. He said he had shown slides and pointed out the damaging effect of the many illegal signs and awnings in the commercial district and had had a good response from those present. The Chairman said he had received a letter from the president of the Citizens Association saying that the meeting had been very successful; attendance had been high and the association had gained a number of new members. The Chairman said he thought the citizens had been alerted to the visual blight creeping into Georgetown, and he felt, too, that the Commission's role had been properly presented as being on the side of historic preservation but at the same time recognizing the development needs of a living city.

E. Draft, Commission of Fine Arts regulations as required by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Authorization to publish draft prepared by the Department of Justice for joint use of small agencies and as proposed CFA regulation; Title 45 CFR, Part 2104. The Assistant Secretary reported that the staff had asked the Justice Department to assist in drafting these regulations concerning non-discrimination, on the basis of a handicap, by Federal agencies. He said the department had prepared a draft that could be used by small agencies generally, and the staff was now asking for authorization to publish this draft, jointly with other small agencies, for public comment. He said the draft was consistent with that adopted by NCPC and other larger agencies. The Chair-

man thought that the attorney member of the Commission, Mr. Novak, who was not present at this meeting, should see it before authorization was given for publication.

F. Republication of Bridges and the City of Washington. The Assistant Secretary reported that copies of the newly republished book had been received. He said it would be carried by the Renwick Gallery and other Smithsonian bookstores as well as being available from the Superintendent of Documents.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Smithsonian Institution

1. CFA 13/DEC/83-1, Anacostia Neighborhood Facility, Museum Annex and Laboratory Addition, Fort Stanton Park. Staff member Jeffrey Carson told the members there was presently a metal-clad building on the Stanton Park site, and that this submission was for a brick addition to it. He introduced Phillip Reiss and architect Tee Allen, both from the Smithsonian. Mr. Reiss said this project was being coordinated with the National Park Service, that agency being responsible for the landscaping of the area. He noted that the old building on Martin Luther King Avenue would be closed and its facilities moved to the Stanton Park site. He said there had been many discussions with the community and there were strong feelings against another metal-clad building and a desire to have brick as the building material. He then introduced Josephina Burgos from Keyes, Condon and Florance, architects, to discuss the design. She showed the new addition in plan, perspective and elevation drawings, noting that it would actually envelop the old metal-clad structure. A decorative pattern of off-white, diamond shaped bricks would run around the building, helping to break up the scale and monotony of the large expanses of windowless brick walls. The members were all pleased with the design and approved it unanimously. Exhibit A

2. CFA 13/DEC/83-2, National Museum of American Art/National Portrait Gallery, west entrance alterations. Staff member Sue Kohler said this submission was for alterations to the 9th Street entrance to one of the Capital's most historic buildings, the Old Patent Office. She showed a slide of the west wing, built in the 1850's, and then introduced Phillip Reiss from the Smithsonian to discuss the proposed entrance alterations. Mr. Reiss said the proposed alterations would consist of moving the existing entrance doors inward, forming a vestibule, and placing an iron gate in the former door position to keep vagrants from sleeping in the vestibule area. He said the reason for the request was that a safety hazard was created by the doors, in their present position, opening directly onto a step; he said they had been altered to swing inward, but this had not completely eliminated the problem. If they vestibule idea is approved, the doors will be reversed to their

original outward swing. He showed drawings and pointed out the design of the iron gate, based on ironwork elsewhere on the building. The members had no objections to this modification, and it was unanimously approved. Exhibit B

3. CFA 13/DEC/83-3, National Zoo entranceway and Olmsted Walk modifications, preliminary plans. The Assistant Secretary introduced George Calise, assistant director of the Zoo for support services, who reviewed for the members the recent work at the Zoo, noting that since 1973 thirty million dollars of construction had been completed. He said this submission for modifications to the Olmsted Walk and entrance areas would tie this work together in a logical fashion. He noted that those who had worked on the project included architect Kent Cooper of the Cooper-Lecky Partnership, Faye Harwell from EDAW, landscape architects, and members of the Zoo staff. He introduced Ms. Harwell who showed a number of slides of the area in question and pointed out present conditions that needed upgrading or more major changes. She said the confusing upper and lower walks should be reworked and areas of erosion controlled; more shade trees should be provided, and where possible, moats should replace fences. At the Connecticut Avenue entrance, she noted that the vehicular entrance needed more vegetation to improve the appearance of the asphalt roadway, and she said it was essential that the narrow sidewalk along the avenue be widened. The width could be increased to 20 feet by the use of retaining walls and a terracing back of the hillside. She said there would be a new Zoo entrance sign but the old stone entrance piers would be retained. The Rock Creek Parkway entrance would also he enhanced, with a new series of ponds supplementing those already existing.

Ms. Harwell commented that Olmsted had laid out the Zoo in 1891. She said very little remains of his work, and only a few fragments of a tree planting plan have been found. She said his plan for the Zoo had been based on the theory that the landscaping should be a backdrop for viewing the animals. It was a picturesque landscape, using open meadow areas and a sinuous walkway through the area. The new plans would provide an almost continuous canopy of trees to give shade and define the walkway laid out along the top of the ridge.

Ms. Harwell then commented on other aspects of the proposed plan. She said there would be information kiosks at entrance points, and the concessions would be concentrated in the Glockenspiel areas with the restuarant left in its present location, near the Rock Creek Parkway entrance. Because of the high visitation level--three million annually--mobile food canteens would be used to accommodate the demand on peak days. Mr. Stone commented that this was an excellent idea, far better than cluttering the Zoo with too many permanent food buildings.
Mr. Calise told the members that this work will be done in phases, from 1984-87. He reported also that progress was being made in the construction of new gibbon and penguin exhibits. He was asked about arrangements

for parking and said this was being studied and was not yet ready for presentation. The members were all pleased with the preliminary plans and approved them unanimously. Exhibit C

B. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 13/DEC/83-4, Cadillac-Fairview project, 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Design development plans for Phase I. The Assistant Secretary recalled the preliminary plans for this project, which incorporated several old structures. The plans were approved by the Commission as a Shipstead-Luce submission (S.L. 80-27) in May 1980. James Rich from PADC was introduced and informed the members that although the plans presented would cover the entire project, it would actually be built in two phases. There would be 400,000 square feet of space in Phase I. He said there were certain guarantees that Phase II would be built as planned, and with the financial situation of the developer having improved, he expected Phase I would move ahead in a timely fashion.

The architect, George Hartman of Hartman/Cox, then reviewed the early plans through the use of slides. He said five old buildings would be incorporated, wholly or in part, and the new construction would step down to the old buildings and also layer back as it went higher. The lower levels would be richer in material and detail than the higher sections. He noted that the U. S. Storage Company building, one of those to be saved, was now owned by the developer. It has a historic easement on the facade, held by the L'Enfant Trust. Mr. Hartman then discussed the materials. The outside building layer would be limestone, the middle layer brick with limestone sills and cornices, and the inner and highest layer brick with no trim. The limestone would be smooth except for spandrels and vertical elements in the windows. There would be two story entrance arcades, lined with shop fronts, and a central atrium with a plaster vault, lighted around the edge. Mr. Hartman then showed material samples: a Washington granite for the base, smooth and textured limestone, and a tan colored brick. He said he would like both design development and material sample approval from the Commission.

The Chairman had one question for Mr. Hartman: He asked if the highest section, if it would be visible at all from the street, could not have just a bit of elegance--perhaps some scoring or a modest cornice to finish off the building. He thought its blandness only increased the impression of bulk and height. Mr. Hartman agreed that this aspect of the design deserved further study and said he would look at the cornice idea again, having used one in his original schematic design. Other than this comment, there was general agreement that the design was a very good one, and it was unanimously approved. Exhibit D

C. Government of the District of Columbia, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 83-33, 1435 G Street, N.W., Washington Building renovation and addition of two new floors, preliminary design. The Assistant Secretary introduced this submission, saying that the owners, Perpetual American Bank, were proposing to renovate the building and add two more floors. He said an earlier renovation had taken place in 1961. Edmund Schnedl, an architect with the HTB firm, then discussed the proposal. He noted that the building had been designed in the late 1920's by the firm of Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott. He said the original spandrel panels, marble with iron decorative elements, had been removed when the 1961 air conditioning system was installed and were replaced with panels that covered air conditioning louvers. Most of the original show windows, which ran around the building, had also been removed. He said a new air conditioning system would permit use of spandrel panels similar to the original, and canopies and a red granite base around the building, at the height of the old show windows, would appear to give the round arched openings above the same proportion they had when the show windows were in place. Glass marquises would identify the entrances on G Street and New York Avenue, and two additional stepped-back stories, with roof terraces, would fill out the zoning envelope.

The Chairman and the other members all thought the arches looked better after the show windows were removed than they did originally; they thought it would be a mistake to add the red granite base. Mr. Chase, noting the height of the two additional stories and the open roof terraces, asked if the security aspect had been looked into, because of the proximity to the White House. The Assistant Secretary replied that there had been two meetings with the Secret Service on this matter. The preliminary unanimously approved with the recommendation that the granite base be deleted.

b. S.L. 84-04, 201 East Capitol Street, S.E., garden design (Folger Library). Mr. Carson located the library on a map and said the proposal was for a three section garden along the east side of the building, facing 3rd Street. It would be enclosed with a formal, wrought iron fence. He introduced Dr. Oscar Hardison, director of the Folger, who told members that this area had become a problem because of would-be robbers hiding in the shrubbery. The decision had been made to clear the area, keeping the large magnolia trees, and create an Elizabethan garden in the center, flanked by a shady area with tables and chairs on one side for luncheon use, and a small amphitheater on the other. The Elizabethan garden, a formal knot garden, would be instructional, featuring plants mentioned in Shakespeare's plays as well as the actual quotations. The stage area would be used for readings, chamber music, and school performance not requiring elaborate staging. Dr. Hardison said the fence was needed to protect the plants and keep criminals out. Its design would be the same as the one in front of the theatre; the height would be 6 feet. Eventually the plants would grow through it, making it less visible.

Landscape architect Meade Palmer was then introduced. He said the problem in designing this garden had been its small scale in relation

to the massive facade behind it. He noted that the doorway in this facade would be left open to view, and that the four large existing magnolia trees would be retained. Arborvitae, 15-20 feet high, would be planted against the wall, and smaller evergreen shrubs planted along the fence. In answer to a question from Mr. Chase, he said a handicapped entrance had been taken into consideration but was not a problem because the area was level with the sidewalk. He added that lighting and paving had not yet been worked out.

Mr. Stone commented on the amphitheater idea, saying it usually does not work because of street noise. Mr. Hardison did not think that would be a problem here as 3rd Street does not carry much traffic, especially at the time when performances would normally be held. There were no objections to the concept of a garden in this location or to the preliminary design, and it was unanimously approved.

d. Appendix 1, approved.

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 84-25, 1703 32nd Street, N.W., Dumbarton Oaks addition, revised design, (previous O.G. 83-151). The Assistant Secretary recalled that at the October 1983 meeting the Commission had approved the concept of this addition but suggested reducing the profile of the enclosure above the courtyard and restudying the concept of a second museum entrance. He said revised drawings incorporating these suggestions, including the use of only one entrance, had been seen and approved by the Georgetown Board. Architect George Hartman commented that a change in the program had facilitated these modifications. He noted that the Georgetown Board had suggested a slight change in the design of the handicapped ramp and pointed this out to the members. There was general agreement that the design was much improved and it was unanimously approved.

b. O.G. 84-22, 1015 31st Street, N.W., new office building, conceptual design. The Assistant Secretary pointed out the location of this proposed structure on the Georgetown waterfront, across from the old incinerator between two new office buildings. He said the Georgetown Board had seen other proposals for this site, one with a bell tower. The board thought it was too high and suggested submitting a lower building with a more modest profile. A revised design was then submitted and given conceptual approval. It was this scheme that was presented to the Commission at this meeting. The architect, John Sutton, from Brown, Weir, Matarazzi, said there would be six levels of office space. The design of the facade, with bay windows and stone details, was meant to recall the older Georgetown buildings. The detailing would continue around the corner and down the alley in an arcade and entrance, in an attempt to respond to the pedestrian alley/plaza area. Ironwork infill in the arcade would give a more delicate feeling. Materials would be

brick with precast trim. Mr. Sutton pointed out that the facade was set back 3 feet so that the bays would be even with the neighboring buildings. There were no objections and the conceptual design was given unanimous approval.

c. Appendix 2, approved.

D. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 13/DEC/83-5, German-American Friendship Garden, Washington Monument Grounds at Constitution Avenue, revised design, (previous CFA 12/OCT/83-5). Mr. Carson reported that this was a resubmission for a friendship garden to be placed along Constitution Avenue on the White House-Jefferson Memorial axis. He recalled that when the Commission had reviewed the design at the October 1983 meeting, they had recommended that it take a linear form and that restraint and simplicity be used in plant selection so that there would be no interference with the view along the axis. He introduced John Parsons from the Park Service, who told the members that NCPC had agreed with their comments, recommending that the garden be primarily an embellishment of the avenue. He then introduced James Van Sweden, landscape architect for the project. Mr. Van Sweden said he had accepted the linear approach and had designed a 45 foot border and walkway that would run from 15th to 17th Street. There would be a lily pond on the east side and a pool with moving water on the west. Planting materials would be small flowering trees and perennials of German and American origin, and paving, too, would feature traditional German and American materials. Mr. Van Sweden added that space had been left to accommodate the occasional erection of bleachers along Constitution Avenue; he observed also that the garden plans included a connecting path to the Washington Monument grounds path system. Mr. Stone asked what the existing trees were, and Mr. Van Sweden said they were willow oaks, part of the Constitution Avenue tree plan that will be integrated with the garden plan. He added that the existing cherry trees will have to be moved when the parking lot is eliminated and the ground regraded. With the assurance that more detailed plans would be presented at a future date, the Commission unanimously approved the preliminary plans. Exhibit E

2. CFA 13/DEC/83-6, National Sculpture Garden, 7th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., pruning trees surrounding pool. Mrs. Kohler recalled the June 1983 presentation of landscaping plans for the garden and the Commission's request at that time the tree pruning, or pleaching, similar to that seen in the lower garden at Dumbarton Oaks, proceed as soon as possible. She showed several slides of the trees in that garden, noting that these, however, were American hornbeams rather than the little leaf lindens at the sculpture garden. She then introduced John Parsons from the Park Service who in turn introduced Richard Giegengack from the architecutural firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.

Mr. Giegengack said he would like to propose a method for the pruning, which had been arrived at after consultation with landscape architect

Dan Kiley, and also showed the members a photograph of a light standard, as an example of the type proposed for the pool area. He said that after study, his firm had decided that the tree canopy should be slightly higher than originally shown on the drawings, that there should be a one-third to two-thirds relationship between trunk and canopy, making the trunks 7 feet high and the canopy 14 feet. He showed photographs of similar examples in Europe. He said the trees, now 23-25 feet in height, would be pruned in a precise line to 21 feet this winter. When they begin to grow together horizontally, an arch form may be cut into the canopy. He showed drawings of this proposal and then turned to a discussion of the lights. He said the existing lights, a simple pole with a round globe, were designed by SOM some years ago, and the feeling now was that something more ornamental should be used. He showed a photograph of a standard and globe of Classic design as an example of the type of fixture proposed, although he noted that a final design had not yet been developed.

The proportions suggested for the tree pruning were considered very good and were unanimously approved. The Chairman suggested, however, that it would be better to await the results of the first pruning before considering the cutting of arches into the canopy as a definite proposal; the other members agreed unanimously with this suggestion. There was also unanimous agreement on the use of a more ornamental light standard; it was expected that detailed drawings would be brought in at a later date. Exhibit F

3. CFA 13/DEC/83-7, Daingerfield Island Marina restaurant, working drawings and material samples. The Assistant Secretary noted that the Commission had approved the preliminary drawings for this project with the recommendation that the decking material at the loading dock be something other than wood. He said it had been changed to brick; other than this change, the design had remained essentially the same. He introduced architect Ken Brown of Giuliani & Associates to discuss the final design development and material samples. Mr. Brown showed samples of a natural cedar shingle and vertical siding of the same material. He said the wood windows and fascias would be painted green, and he showed samples of awning fabric: yellow, yellow with a white stripe, and green. He said the deck would be white pine, treated to be fire retardant, except near the kitchen and loading dock, where it would be brick, to eliminate the problems of soiling and staining pointed out by Mr. Netsch during the previous review. He said he would bring in a sample of the brick. He was then asked why redwood was not chosen for the deck material; he said that pine was considered harder and more impervious to scarring. The Chairman commented on the trim and awning colors, saying he thought that blue and white--traditional nautical colors--would be more appropriate since this is a marina, not a woodland struc-

ture. The other members agreed. Mr. Stone commented on the grooving in the vertical siding, thinking it too mechanical in appearance; Mr (Ken) Brown said it was not accurate and would actually be almost monolithic in appearance. With these comments, the working drawings and material samples were unanmiously approved. Exhibit G

E. Federal Reserve System, Board of Governors

CFA 13/DEC/83-8, relandscaping the Federal Reserve Board Eccles Building, revised design (previous CFA 12/OCT/83-7). Mr. Carson referred to the letter written after the previous submission of this project, in which the Commission requested reserve and restraint in the landscape design for this monumental building. He introduced David Frost, staff director for management, who said he wanted to impart Chairman Volcker's concern that the character and attractiveness of the building be maintained, but also his request that the Board be afforded the opportunity to choose a type of planting that would not harbor "street" people and cause problems. He said they would like to use magnolia "Little Gem" along the base of the building with a groundcover beneath, one of the alternatives suggested at the October 1983 meeting. He introduced landscape architect James Van Sweden to discuss the character of these magnolias and their adaptability to pruning and shaping. The members thought these trees appropriate substitutions for the original landscaping and their use was unanimously approved. Exhibit H

F. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. CFA 13/DEC/83-9, Helen Hayes medal, Gold Medallion Series, designs. Mrs. Kohler introduced George Schafer from the Mint to show drawings of the designs for this medal. Mr. Schafer said this was the next to last medal in the series; the last would be the John Steinbeck medal, which he had hoped would be ready for this meeting but was not. The portrait of Miss Hayes on the obverse had been selected by her; on the reserve were the masks of comedy and tragedy and a scroll motif, surrounding the inscription. There were no objections to the design of either side, although the Chairman suggested that the artist's initials on the reverse be moved from the center slightly to the side, under the scroll, so that they did not appear to be part of the design. The other members concurred in this, and on this basis, the design was unanimously approved. Exhibit I

2. CFA 13/DEC/83-10, John Steinbeck medal, Gold Medallion Series, designs.

3. CFA 13/DEC/83-11, 1984 Louisiana Exposition medal, designs.

Both these medals were withdrawn and will be submitted at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT A

December 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Reiss:

At our Commission meeting of December 13, 1983, we reviewed designs for the proposed museum annex and laboratory addition to the Anacostia Neighborhood Facility at Fort Stanton Park. I am pleased to say that my colleagues and I were delighted with the submission and have recommended in its favor. The Commission looks forward to the submission of working drawings and material samples as well as a comprehensive landscape plan before work commences.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Philip K. Reiss, Director
Office of Design and Construction
Smithsonian Institution
955 L'Enfant Plaza, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20024

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT B

December 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Reiss:

I am happy to confirm the Commission's December 13, 1983 approval of proposed modifications to the entrance at the west end of the National Museum of American Arts/ National Portrait Gallery building. Our understanding is that all new elements such as the gates will be matching existing examples on the building.

If we can be of any further assistance in this work please let us know.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Philip K. Reiss, Director
Office of Design and Construction
Smithsonian Institution
955 L'Enfant Plaza, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20024

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT C

December 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Calise:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and your consultants on December 13, 1983 and to see the excellent start on the new planning at the National Zoo. You certainly have our endorsement to proceed with the development of these ideas and we look forward to reviewing details as they develop.

The general principle of eliminating some of the eyesore paving and confusing paths as well as surface parking near the Elephant House will enhance the environment and exhibit spaces considerably. Consolidation of the vending areas to minimize pedestrian path service vehicles also makes sense. Upgrading the appearance and orientation facilities at the entrances is being approached in a sensible way and having a new Penguin Exhibit inside the Connecticut Avenue gates will liven up that area considerably.

In light of the fire on December 15 this also may be a good time for examining the appearance and safety of a number of makeshift temporary structures at the Zoo.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Gaetano G. Calise, Jr.
3000 Block Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
National Zoological Park
Washington, D. C. 20008

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EXHIBIT D

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

December 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Berliner:

The Commission of Fine Arts met with your staff and representatives of the Cadillac-Fairview project during our December 13, 1983 meeting. Our approval of the design development and the selection of materials does come with one suggestion, however. The tallest part of the project looked to us as though it needed some additional horizontal articulation of surface near the top to finish off the building, and we urged George Hartman, the architect, to look at that a bit more.

Though we are pleased to see this project moving forward we are approving its phasing with reluctance. I am sure we join you in hoping that a way can be found to construct the entire complex at one time. In the meantime, we shall look forward to review of the working drawings as they are readied through the Shipstead-Luce Act requirements relating to a District of Columbia Government building permit.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Henry A. Berliner, Jr.
425 13th Street, N. W.
Suite 1148
Washington, D. C. 20004

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT E

December 22, 1983

Dear John:

At the Commission meeting of December 13, 1983, we reviewed the new design for the German-American Friendship Garden proposed for Constitution Avenue on the White House-Jefferson Memorial axis. My colleagues and I are pleased to inform you that the concept has been approved subject to further design development.

The Commission of Fine Arts is delighted to see the linear solution, and would like strongly to underline its concern that the design embody restraint on every part. For example, the plant schedule should avoid ornamental grasses, and strive for a dignified solution reflective of the style and character of the Mall.

We look forward to future submissions as the careful development of design and choice of plant and paving materials advances.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John Parsons
Associate Regional Director
for Land Use Coordination
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT F

December 22, 1983

Dear Jack:

At its December 13, 1983 meeting the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed proposals for pruning the trees around the pool at the National Sculpture Garden, as presented by representatives from your agency and the architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.

The plan to prune the trees evenly to a height of 21', with a 7' high trunk and 14' canopy, was considered an excellent one, both in regard to adequate head room underneath and the proportion of trunk to branch growth. However, it was thought that the suggestion to cut arched openings in the canopy should await the results of the first pruning before being presented as a definite proposal.

The Commission also looked at a photograph of a lighting standard of Classic design, as an example of the type proposed to replace the ones presently in the pool area. There were no objections to removing the existing fixtures or to replacing them with standards of an older more ornamental design. It was expected that detailed drawings of the lighting standards would be presented when they are ready.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Regional Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT G

December 22, 1983

Dear Jack:

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to review and approve final plans for the proposed new restaurant facility at the Daingerfield Island sailing marina. We are pleased to see the change to brick in the loading dock area in response to our earlier suggestion. The one comment we have involves the proposed trim and awning colors which the architect had proposed in dark green and yellow, respectively. A more appropriate combination, in our opinion, would be blue and white, a time-honored, nautical theme with strong associations with sailing facilities everywhere.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Regional Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT H

December 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Frost:

At the Commission meeting of December 13, 1983, we reviewed a new design for the proposed re-landscaping of the grounds for the Eccles Building on Constitution Avenue, and the revised concept has been approved.

We continue to hope that the result will evoke as much as possible the original landscape design, and look forward to the submission of a comprehensive plant schedule and working drawings for a detailed review of each landscape element as it developes.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. David Frost
Staff Director for Management
Federal Reserve Board
20th & Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20551

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT I

December 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Frere:

At its meeting on December 13, 1983 the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for the Helen Hayes gold medallion. I am happy to tell you that both the obverse and reverse designs were approved.

The members had one suggestion: The artist's initials on the reverse should be moved off center, perhaps towards the right-hand loop of the scroll, so that they do not seem to be part of the design.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Francis B. Frere
Assistant Director
of the Mint for Marketing
Department of the Treasury
Bureau of the Mint
Washington, D. C. 20220